

The Town's Official New Flag

We now have available for purchase the Town's beautiful new flag. The design, based on our new logo and gateway signs, will show a sense of community and pride in our Town as it hangs from porches, decks, and flagpoles throughout Kensington. The silkscreen flags are 3' by 5' and can be purchased for \$50 at the Town Hall.

Meet Our Summer Intern

My name is Crissi Bailey and I am interning this summer for the Town of Kensington. In the fall I am going to be a senior at John F Kennedy High school in the Leadership Training Institute program, the LTI. I have a 4.0 (all As) grade point average and am an active member of the National Honors Society. I am one of the top students in my class in terms of academics and community service; I am very active in my community. As an intern for the Town of Kensington I help with various office tasks, but I was given the big project of organizing the Town's archives. I go through, sort, label, and organize all of the town's old files; it's very interesting. In my free time I am a volunteer and a dancer. I enjoy working for the Town and I am glad that I am working on a project that will be of use to Town Officials.

Take Precautions!

Please remember to lock your home and car doors. There have been several burglaries in the area and homes were entered through unlocked doors.

Also, there have been suspicious persons going to homes offering to do roofing work. These people prey especially on the elderly. Do not hire strangers to do any work without thoroughly checking on their credentials. Remember that any price that is too good to be true usually is!

Most Important – report anything suspicious to the Montgomery County Police. Try to remember as many details as possible about suspicious persons, their cars etc. We like to have you notify Town Hall about such incidents so we can make all our citizens aware but **first** you need to call the **police** dispatch at **301-279-8000**.

Mayor's Report

Howard Avenue Revitalization

Our gateway unveiling on June 7th was a great success. After the unveiling on Connecticut Avenue all of us moved to Flinn Park for a reception. We were honored with the presence of County Executive Doug Duncan, County Councilmembers Ike Leggett, Howard Dennis, and Blair Ewing as well as Delegate Sharon Grosfeld. Many Town residents and several merchants joined us making the celebration a wonderful Town event.

Our celebration continued into the evening with a reception hosted by several merchants. Citizens brought desserts to share. Over two hundred persons enjoyed the day of events. Thanks to all who attended and those who volunteered. Special thanks to Roger Lund and Caya Cagri for co-chairing the merchant's event.

We look forward to Phase II of Howard Avenue starting this summer.

Metropolitan Avenue

The Mayor met with State Highway Administration several times this month to discuss a new configuration of Metropolitan Avenue. The new plans are in the Council Room for interested persons to review. During the fall of this year PEPCO will move its poles where needed and in the spring of 2001 the project will be underway.

Maryland Municipal League

The Mayor, Council Members Pfautz and Tucker, and Clerk Treasurer McAuley attended the Maryland Municipal League Convention in Ocean City in June. They found the workshops and meetings to be very informative. The time spent sharing ideas with other municipalities as well as the workshops and meetings we attended were all helpful. The Town of Somerset is going to introduce legislation to the Legislative Committee to address undergrounding utilities. The Mayor joined them in support of this legislation and it will be sent to the Maryland Municipal League for the Legislative Committee to address in the next session.

While in Ocean City the Mayor was installed as District 5 Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Municipal League.

Meetings and Events Attended by the Mayor

The Mayor and full Council gathered on July 14th to salute the flag in front of Town Hall in recognition of Flag Day.

The Mayor attended a Retirement Party at Kensington Parkwood Elementary where she presented a certificate of appreciation to Ms. Anne Reiley who has been a teacher in Montgomery County for 35 years and the last 20 years has taught at Kensington Parkwood Elementary. A big thanks goes to Ms. Reiley for her dedication to the children of Montgomery County.

The Mayor attended a Wheaton Kensington Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting held at the China Gourmet. Several Kensington Business District Association and Old Town Merchant Association members attended at the Chamber's invitation.

The Kensington Business District Association held a breakfast this month and invited the Wheaton Kensington Chamber of Commerce to join them for this event. The Mayor attended and felt that this communication of our business association sharing ideas and concerns is a step in the right direction.

The Mayor attended a Tourism Initiative Workshop in Rockville.

The Mayor was interviewed by Richard Cohn, a Boy Scout working on his citizenship badge.

Council Member Bruch's Report

Infrastructure

In conjunction with the Code Enforcement Officer, Council Member Bruch had Montgomery County Zoning Enforcement investigate early morning activity at the concrete plant. Plant operations are restricted to the hours of 7 a.m. – 9 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. weekends and holidays. Citizens observing activity outside of these hours should contact the Town Code Enforcement Officer at 301-949-2424.

He toured the Town with the Director of Public Works to review street conditions, signage matters, the DPW garage facility, and various special projects.

Mr. Bruch reported two abandoned vehicles on Dupont Avenue, west of Connecticut Avenue. Citizens should report untagged vehicles to the Town Code Enforcement Officer.

He obtained current tax assessment maps from the State and assembled one map of all properties within the Town's corporate limits to assist Montgomery County Public Schools in modifying the school cluster boundary.

He reported a malfunctioning traffic signal (left turn arrow) at Connecticut and Knowles. The left turn arrow was operating during every cycle even without cars in the left turn lane (on top of the sensors). This southbound arrow was taking 4-5 seconds of green time away from northbound Connecticut Avenue motorists. 4-5 seconds may not seem like much but it adds up and further contributes to Connecticut Avenue "grid lock". If you notice traffic signal malfunctions, please report them directly to Montgomery County's Traffic Signal division at 240-777-2190 (the County relies on citizens to report malfunctions).

Thanks to all of the volunteers in the Town who serve on committees, organize events, or help out with special projects. You help make Kensington a great place to life! We are always looking for new people to help out and relieve some of our core volunteers. If you are interested, contact Pat McAuley at 301-949-2424 to discuss volunteer opportunities.

Council Member O'Donnell's Report

Budget & Finance

In addition to attending several ceremonial functions with his colleagues, Council Member O'Donnell:

Reported incursions onto residential streets by an oil tanker truck and a commercial waste hauler;

Reported an illegal waste pickup by a commercial waste hauler;

Conducted a survey of parking in the vicinity of the armory in light of the departure of the Washington Bridge League. The parking problem was relieved. For the first time in a year on a Thursday night, local residents were able to park in front of or near their homes.

Council Member Pfautz' Report

Traffic & Safety

Council Member Pfautz attended a Preservation Gala at Town Hall. This was a great event showcasing the Armory and its great potential as a cultural event site. Maryland

State Senator Jennie Forehand and Montgomery County Council Member Blair Ewing were in attendance as well as representatives from preservation groups around the County.

She attended Founder's Day celebration. Thanks to Roger Lund and his committee for all their hard work in making the first Founder's Day celebration such a fun event for so many Town residents.

She attended the Maryland Municipal League Convention in Ocean City. Attended a very informative program for newly elected officials as well as programs on municipal budgeting and creation of skate parks.

Council Member Pfautz attended the Flag Day ceremony at Town Hall on June 14th.

She attended the concert sponsored by the Kensington Historical Society and local businesses on June 15th on the grounds of Circle Manor. Many thanks to Wat Stewart for organizing another great community concert.

She continued work on the Charter Review.

Ms. Pfautz continued work on the Traffic Advisory Committee project and spoke to several Town residents about participating.

She attended a Wheaton-Kensington Chamber of Commerce dinner on June 19th.

Council Member Tucker's Report

Trees, Parks, and Playgrounds

Council Member Tucker attended the Maryland Municipal League Convention and participated in two general sessions and a workshop on municipal budgeting.

He assisted the Montgomery County Police with traffic restriction enforcement at Frederick Avenue and Wake Drive.

He attended the Montgomery County Historical Society Gala at the Kensington Community Center.

Worksession of Mayor & Council

June 26, 2000 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Raufaste, Council Members Bruch, Pfautz and Tucker, and Clerk Treasurer McAuley and Public Works Director Joel were present and the following issues were addressed:

The Council approved a survey to be completed for Dupont Avenue west of Connecticut Avenue to ascertain the Town right of way. This survey will better enable the Code Enforcement Officer to enforce Town parking restrictions and other codes in this area.

The latest reconfiguration of Metropolitan Avenue Streetscape Improvements is posted in the Council Room.

The Town is planning to host an Economic Development Symposium for local business owners sometime in the near future. Montgomery County Economic Development staff will assist in the planning of this event.

The Town has asked for a continuance of the Ahearn/Hoobler case before the Montgomery County Board of Appeals. The Town's Intervener Status in this case will be re-addressed at a future date.

Minutes were reviewed for additions and corrections.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Possible improvements to the Town's Election Day procedures were discussed.

The Town will ask the Montgomery Council Board of Alcohol License Commissioners to notify us of any applications they receive for a B-K license (unique to the Town).

Town Meeting

June 26, 2000

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Raufaste, Council Members Bruch, O'Donnell, Pfautz, and Tucker, Clerk Treasurer McAuley and Director of Public Works Joel were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to many of the citizens and friends of Kensington who have donated their time and talents as volunteers for many of the events and projects in the Town.

Mayor Raufaste administered Oaths of Office to Council Members Bruch and Pfautz and Director of Public Works Joel. Mrs. Raufaste had been sworn in previously by the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Mayor and Council presented reports.

There were no building permits issued in June.

Additional citizens volunteered for the Traffic Committee.

The Code Enforcement Officer will check reported dumping along the CSX tracks and concrete debris on Metropolitan Avenue.

State Highway Administration engineers will be asked to re-examine the location of the warning signal pole on Connecticut Avenue at Baltimore Street. Residents have complained lack of visibility to oncoming traffic at this intersection.

Council Actions

Council Member O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes as printed. Seconded and passed unanimously.

Council Member Bruch moved to approve American Self Storage Landscape Improvement Plans for the Town right of way at Metropolitan Avenue and Plyers Mill Road with the understanding that there is a risk that a road reconfiguration could eliminate these improvements. Further it was noted that landscape plans also include area that is State right of way. Seconded and passed unanimously with the Mayor concurring.

Council Member O'Donnell moved to extend the Metricom Agreement thirty additional days to allow for a legal review of the document to be completed by the Town Attorney and recommended changes be made to the amended agreement. Seconded and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat McAuley, Clerk Treasurer

The next Town Meeting is July 31st at 7:30 p.m. The next Worksession is August 7th at 7:00 p.m.

You can reach the Town at 3710 Mitchell Street. Phone 301-949-2424. Fax 301-949-4925. E-mail mayor.council@tok.org.